

Message Text

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ORIGIN ARA-14

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 190716

FOR ASST SEC TODMAN

FOL REPEAT BRASILIA 6664 ACTION SECSTATE INFO ASUNCION
MONTEVIDEO RIO DE JANEIRO SAO PAULO DTD 10 AUG.

QUOTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L BRASILIA 6664
E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: OVIP (TODMAN, TERENCE A.) AR BR PA UY CI
SUBJ: TODMAN VISIT

REF: (A) STATE 183269 (NOTAL), (B) RIO DE JANEIRO 3654 (NOTAL),
(C) STATE 180885 (NOTAL), (D) ASUNCION 3205 (NOTAL),
(E) STATE 179429 (NOTAL), (F) BRASILIA 6631 (NOTAL),
(G) ZIMMERMANN-RUSER TELECON, 8/9

1. HAVING GIVEN AMBASSADOR SCARABOTOLO ADVANCE NOTICE ON
JULY 28 AND AUGUST 3, CHARGE MADE SEPARATE CALLS ON AMBASSADORS
HERMES
PEREIRA DE ARAUJO AND SCARABOTOLO, AUGUST 9, TO BRIEF THEM
ON AMBASSADOR TODMAN'S ITINERARY. PURPOSE OF CALL ON ARAUJO
(CHIEF, WESTERN HEMISPHERE DEPARTMENT) WAS TO ADVISE GOB
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OFFICIALLY THAT AMBASSADOR TODMAN WOULD BE BRIEFLY ON
BRAZILIAN SOIL. CALL ON SCARABOTOLO (CHIEF OF PROTOCOL) WAS
TO PROVIDE FOREIGN MINISTRY'S PROTOCOL OFFICE WITH THE DETAILS
OF THE ITINERARY. ARAUJO TOOK NOTE AND
EXPRESSED THE MINISTRY'S APPRECIATION FOR THE OFFICIAL NOTI-
FICATION. SCARABOTOLO SAID HIS OFFICE WOULD ARRANGE FOR THE
SPECIAL VISITORS LOUNGE AT GALEAO AIRPORT TO BE MADE AVAILABLE

TO AMBASSADOR TODMAN ON ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURE.

2. IN BOTH MEETINGS, CHARGE NOTED THAT AMBASSADOR TODMAN'S WEEKEND STOP IN RIO WOULD BE UNOFFICIAL AND INFORMAL, AT THE END OF HIS TRIP TO SEVERAL SOUTH AMERICAN COUNTRIES. AMBASSADOR TODMAN WAS PLANNING NO OFFICIAL CONVERSATIONS WITH BRAZILIAN AUTHORITIES, ALTHOUGH SOME SOCIAL CONTACTS MIGHT CONCEIVABLY OCCUR DURING HIS WEEKEND SCHEDULE. THE US CONSUL GENERAL IN RIO WOULD BE ON HAND FOR AMBASSADOR TODMAN'S ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURE. AMBASSADOR CRIMMINS, WHO WOULD HAVE RETURNED TO BRAZIL BY THEN, WOULD BE TRAVELING TO RIO TO MEET INFORMALLY, ON STRICTLY AN "IN-HOUSE" BASIS, WITH AMBASSADOR TODMAN ON SATURDAY, AUGUST 20.

3. IN THE TWO MEETINGS, CHARGE ALSO NOTED THAT, ON AUGUST 16, AMBASSADOR TODMAN WOULD BE VISITING IGUACU FALLS FROM THE BRAZILIAN SIDE, ARRIVING FROM PARAGUAY BY CAR. HE WOULD BE ACCOMPANIED BY THE US AMBASSADOR IN ASUNCION AND BY PARAGUAYAN OFFICIALS. CHARGE DID NOT REQUEST ANY ASSISTANCE OR COURTESIES, NOTING THAT ALL ARRANGEMENTS FOR THIS TRIP WERE BEING HANDLED FROM ASUNCION.

4. IN AN ATTEMPT TO DRAW OUT SCARABOTOLO ON ITAMARATY ATTITUDES AND POSSIBLE ITAMARATY ORIGINS OF PRESS SPECULATION (REF F), CHARGE NOTED RECENT ERRONEOUS PRESS ACCOUNTS
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THAT AMBASSADOR TODMAN WOULD BE VISITING THE CAPITAL. THE REFERENCE, AS IT TURNED OUT, WAS NOT NECESSARY. SCARABOTOLO ASKED TWICE WHETHER, IN THE COURSE OF HIS INFORMAL VISIT TO BRAZIL, TODMAN WAS PLANNING TO STOP OVER IN BRASILIA. WHEN CHARGE SAID THAT HE WAS NOT, SCARABOTOLO VOLUNTEERED THAT IF HE SHOULD, AMBASSADOR TODMAN WOULD WISH TO MEET WITH THE FOREIGN MINISTER. CHARGE SAID HE SAW NO POSSIBILITY THAT AMBASSADOR TODMAN WOULD STOP OVER IN BRASILIA DURING HIS CURRENT TRIP. TODMAN WAS FULLY COMMITTED IN MONTEVIDEO UNTIL LATE AFTERNOON, AUGUST 19, AND WOULD NOT BE ARRIVING IN RIO UNTIL 21:10 (VARIG 611). AN EARLIER DEPARTURE FROM MONTEVIDEO, GIVEN THE OFFICIAL PROGRAM THERE, WAS NOT POSSIBLE. SCARABOTOLO SAID HE HAD NOT PREVIOUSLY REALIZED THAT AMBASSADOR TODMAN WOULD BE ARRIVING IN BRAZIL SO LATE IN THE DAY, AND "HE WOULD INFORM THE MINISTER.

5. COMMENT. AS PREVIOUSLY REPORTED (REFTEL F), IN RESPONSE TO JORNAL DO BRASIL STORY, AUGUST 6, THAT AMBASSADOR TODMAN WOULD BE VISITING BRASILIA, EMBASSY ISSUED STATEMENT, SAME DAY, ABOUT TODMAN WEEKEND STOP IN RIO. FROM THE EXCHANGE WITH SCARABOTOLO, IT SEEMS PROBABLE THAT PRESS STORIES WERE

AT LEAST PARTIALLY INSPIRED BY FOREIGN MINISTRY,
EITHER BY LOOSE CORRIDOR TALK OR -- MORE LIKELY, IN
OUR VIEW, -- DELIBERATELY, PERHAPS DESIGNED TO
ENCOURAGE THE IDEA OF A FURTHER TODMAN VISIT TO
BRASILIA, WITHOUT ASKING FOR IT DIRECTLY. WE DO NOT
THINK THERE COULD HAVE BEEN ANY MISUNDERSTANDING
THAT AMBASSADOR TODMAN WAS PLANNING TO VISIT ONLY IGUACU
AND RIO AND, IF THERE HAD BEEN ANY DOUBT, IT WOULD
HAVE BEEN EASY FOR THE MINISTRY TO CHECK. DURING
MEETING WITH ARAUJO, WHICH OCCURRED SEVERAL HOURS AFTER
THE MEETING WITH SCARABOTOLO, CHARGE STRESSED
THAT AMBASSADOR TODMAN'S CURRENT TRIP WAS TO
COUNTRIES HE HAD NOT YET VISITED SINCE ASSUMING HIS
PRESENT POSITION.
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ARAUJO (WHO JUST SEEMED TO BE RETURNING FROM A
MEETING WITH THE MINISTER OR THE SECRETARY
GENERAL) MADE NO FURTHER ALLUSION TO A BRASILIA
STOP. FROM THE POSITIVE, FRIENDLY TONE OF THAT MEETING, WE
ARE PERSUADED THAT FOREIGN MINISTRY IS FULLY SATISFIED
WITH THE EMBASSY'S EXPLANATION.

6. CONSUL GENERAL SAO PAULO, AUGUST 8, ALSO INFORMED
CHIEF OF PROTOCOL OF THE STATE OF PARANA OF TODMAN
VISIT, NOTING THAT EMBASSY WAS INFORMING
ITAMARATI, AND THAT ALL ARRANGEMENTS WERE BEING
HANDLED BY THE PARAGUAYAN GOVERNMENT.
RUSER
UNQUOTE CHRISTOPHER

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NNN

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